

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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S/NM:MLAWRENCE (SUBS)

NEA/RA:JAMATTSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PK, US

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS IN PAKISTAN

REF: STATE 172323

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS CALLED IN PAKISTANI
CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IQBAL RIZA AUGUST 18 TO GIVE HIM OUR RE-
ACTION TO PAKISTANI AID-MEMOIRE SUBMITTED EARLIER (REFTEL).

2. DUBS MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

A. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED
ABOUT INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS.

B. WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN IS
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DETERMINED TO TAKE EFFECTIVE STEPS TO CONTROL NARCOTICS

TRAFFIC.

C. NEVERTHELESS THERE ARE ADDITIONAL STEPS WHICH WE BELIEVE THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN COULD TAKE TO MAKE ITS EFFORTS MORE EFFECTIVE.

D. FIRST, ALL OF THE FIELD INVESTIGATIVE UNITS, ORGANIZED UNDER THE PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD, SHOULD BE MADE FULLY OPERATIONAL. AS YOU KNOW, THESE UNITS WERE ESTABLISHED WITH SOME AID ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE OFFERED FURTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INSURE THAT THE AID PROVIDED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT BECOMES FULLY OPERATIONAL. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD NEEDS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH TRAINING STAFF, AND PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES AND FACILITIES TO HOUSE THESE UNITS.

E. SECOND, IT APPEARS TO US IMPERATIVE THAT THE PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD BECOMES OPERATIONALLY INVOLVED IN INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

F. THIRD, AID HAS GRANTED DOLS 50,000 TO FINANCE A SURVEY IN SWABI TEHSIL LOOKING TOWARDS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. BEFORE WE MOVE INTO MAJOR FUNDING, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A CREDIBLE LONG RANGE LICENSE/ENFORCEMENT PLAN FOR THE POPPY GROWING AREA.

G. FOURTH, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THE NEWS THAT THE BASIC NARCOTICS LEGISLATION HAS BEEN CLEARED BY THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. WE HOPE THAT THE ASSEMBLY WILL TAKE ACTION ON THIS ISSUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

H. WE OFFER THIS ADVICE BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THE WHOLE QUESTION OF NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT.

I. SINCE JUNE THE PROSPECT OF SIGNIFICANT CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION TO PAKISTAN AS A HEROIN SOURCE COUNTRY HAS INCREASED. A SELECT COMMITTEE ON DRUG ABUSE AND CONTROL HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VERY RECENTLY BEEN FORMED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH LESTER WOLFF AS ITS CHAIRMAN.

J. WOLFF HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF THE DEPARTMENT IN REGARD TO NARCOTICS, CLAIMING PARTICULARLY THAT INSUFFICIENT HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO IT.

K. WE EXPECT HEARINGS IN WHICH THE ROLE OF PAKISTAN AS AN

OPIUM SOURCE COUNTRY WILL BE REVIEWED AND THE ADEQUACY OF
PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT STEPS TO CONTROL PRODUCTION AND
TRAFFICKING WILL BE EXPLORED AND JUDGED.

L. WE UNDERSTAND THERE ARE BUREAUCRATIC PROBLEMS INVOLVED
IN LAUNCHING ANY NEW PROGRAMS BUT WE URGE YOUR GOVERNMENT
TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO REMEDY THIS.

M. FOR OUR PART, WE REMAIN READY TO ASSIST YOU IN THESE
EFFORTS.

3. IN RESPONSE, RIZA NOTED THAT POINTS MADE SEEMED
"CONSTRUCTIVE" AND PROMISED TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO ISLAMA-
BAD.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD FOLLOW UP REPRESENTATIONS HERE WITH
APPROPRIATE CALLS IN ISLAMABAD. KISSINGER

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